

Cascade County Mental Health Local Advisory Council



Minutes
Monday, August 3, 2020
Zoom Virtual meeting
3:00 pm -5:00 pm



Members Present: Amee Ellsworth, Ginny Carnes, Linda Daggett, Shawn Matsko, Tom Osborn, Gayle Snyder, Greg Tilton, Dusti Zimmer, Cassidy Bloomgren, Jennifer Whitfield, Trista Besich, Jane Weber

Guests Present: Jane Wilson

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Amee Ellsworth, Chair, at 3:02 PM virtually through Zoom.

Approval of the Minutes from March 2020: The March 2 meeting Minutes were approved with no changes.

Review updated Strategic Plan:

Strategic Plan Committee Reports :

Goal #1 Convene and Collaborate

1. **Resource Guide:** Jennifer, Ginny

- Jennifer reported that they did meet and have revised/updated it. They have secured a \$4,000 Tribal/County matching grant for the printing and distribution of the Guide.
- The distribution has been on hold since the COVID shut down. The plan is to have an electronic distribution, a school envelope distribution and a distribution through the grocery store, possibly other retail outlets.
- They are working on an estimate for the numbers needed in order to make a purchase.

2. **Executive Committee Report:**

- Amee reported the Executive Committee did not meet during this shut-down time.
- A smaller group will meet with Amee before the next meeting to review the Strategic Plan and focus on what might be a top priority for submitting a mini-grant application to CSAA for funding.
- Amee, Linda, Jane Weber, Ginny agree to be part of the small group and Amee will send an email inviting others who may be interested.

3. **Review County and State Health Improvement Plan- Progress on the CHIP *Healthy Lives Vibrant Futures* Resource Guide:**

- Amee will email the Plan out again for the group to review since so much time has gone by since we saw it last.
- Amee reminded the group of the importance of knowing what the State Plan prioritizes so we can be in line with that.

4. **Events/Speakers Bureau:** Greg

- We may have to re-think the Speakers Bureau in light of the current shut-down of meetings.
- We usually participate in the Vets 4 Vets Stand-Down but it is undecided whether it will take place this year.

Goal #2 Communication and Marketing

1. Media Marketing Plan: Amee and Greg have yet to meet during this time.
2. Rural Outreach: Greg reported
 - Rural outreach was reconfirmed is a priority of the Suicide Prevention Task Force as well. The Montana Peer Support Network has funding for Peer Support in this area.
 - The State Conference on Suicide Prevention featured Rural outreach and the Extension Service as a resource for groups such as the LAC.
3. Libraries interested in behavioral health presentations/information: There has been no progress on this.
4. Extension Service presentation to the LAC: Greg has not connected with the Extension Service yet but will work on that.

Goal#3 Evaluation

1. Develop a pre and post evaluation of Goal#2: Greg and Amee have not met on this.

Representative Reports

Crisis Services: Crisis Steering Committee, CIT: Jennifer reported

- The monthly report was presented by Jennifer as emailed prior to the meeting. There is not a lot of change in July even with COVID present as a possible influence. CRT team has been very busy this summer, so the recent numbers could be higher.
- Since inception the CRT (Crisis Response Team) has a 92% jail diversion rate, 60% emergency room diversion rate. There are 26 repeat user cases out of 220 cases since inception.
- Jennifer gave kudos to the law enforcement and providers who have participated in the CRT.

Suicide Prevention Committee: Greg they met and have some new members who are motivated and moving forward.

CSAA report:

- Ginny did attend CSAA - there was no quorum. They miss AMDD (State Addiction and Mental Disorder Division) being involved and are finding that few people are willing to work.
- They do have mini-grant funds available.

Community Reports/Announcements from Board Members:

Jane Wilson Resignation:

- Jane Wilson resigned the Council and is working more with the Vets 4 Vets. She did offer to be consultant if needed especially concerning historical information regarding the LAC. She was welcomed to be a guest at LAC meetings. The group thanked and commended her for her service. She will be greatly missed.
- Jane commented on the importance of everyone taking part in and working on the Strategic Plan, that there are only a few people taking part in implementing the plan.
- Amee will re-send the Strategic Plan and ask if more will participate.

Life with COVID:

- Ameer commented on how we have lost connection during this pandemic and reaffirmed her commitment to the Council.
- There is a COVID Hotline through Benefis. Ameer will send out the number for the group to share.
- Benefis is adding a Peer Support person to staff.

Center for Mental Health: Jennifer reported the Center is providing telehealth service and telephone service during this time.

Cascade County: Jane Weber suggested we need to look at our membership and get new nominations to the Commissioners. We will need another family member or consumer and Ginny will follow up. City law enforcement and Sheriff's office has not been attending as well. Jane will contact Robert and Jessie to see if they have suggestions.

Public Comment: No public comment

Adjourn The meeting was adjourned at 4:25. Next meeting September 7, 2020